

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) Porous bodies which are soluble or dispersible in non-aqueous media comprising a three dimensional open cell lattice containing

(a) 10 to 95% by weight of a polymeric material which is soluble in water immiscible non-aqueous media and

(b) 5 to 90% by weight of a surfactant,

said porous bodies having an intrusion volume as measured by mercury porosimetry of at least about 3 ml/g.

Claim (Currently Amended) Porous bodies as claimed in claim 1 wherein the bodies are in the form of powders, beads or moulded bodies.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) Porous bodies as claimed in claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~ wherein the polymeric material is a homopolymer or copolymer made from one or more of the following (co)monomers:-

Alkenes; dienes; urethanes; vinyl esters; styrenics; alkyl (meth)acrylates; alkyl (meth)acrylamides; (meth)acrylonitrile; vinyl ethers; imides; amides; anhydrides, esters; ethers, carbonates; isothiocyanates; silanes; siloxanes; sulphones; aliphatic and aromatic alcohols; aromatic and aliphatic acids; aromatic and aliphatic amines.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) Porous bodies as claimed in claim 3 wherein the polymeric material is polystyrene or polyvinyl acetate.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) Porous bodies as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~claim 1 wherein the porous polymeric bodies have water soluble and/or water insoluble materials incorporated into the polymeric lattice.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) Porous bodies as claimed in claim 5 wherein the water soluble material is selected from water soluble vitamins; water soluble fluorescers; activated aluminium chlorohydrate; transition metal complexes used as bleaching catalysts; water soluble polymers; diethylenetriaminepentaacetic acid (DTPA); primary and secondary alcohol sulphates containing greater than C8 chain length or mixtures thereof.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) Porous bodies as claimed in claim 5 wherein the water insoluble material is selected from the group consisting of antimicrobial agents; antidandruff agent; skin lightening agents; fluorescing agents; antifoams; hair conditioning agents; fabric conditioning agents; skin conditioning agents; dyes; UV protecting agents; bleach or bleach precursors; antioxidants; insecticides; pesticides; herbicides; perfumes or precursors thereto; flavourings or precursors thereto; pharmaceutically active materials; hydrophobic polymeric materials; and mixtures thereof.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended) A method for preparing porous bodies which are soluble or dispersible in non-aqueous media comprising a three dimensional open cell lattice containing

(a) 10 to 95% by weight of a polymeric material which is soluble in water immiscible non-aqueous media and

(b) 5 to 90% by weight of a surfactant,

said porous bodies having an intrusion volume as measured by mercury porosimetry (~~as hereinafter described~~) of at least about 3 ml/g comprising the steps of:

a) providing an intimate mixture of the polymeric material and the surfactant in a liquid medium

- b) providing a fluid freezing medium at a temperature effective for rapidly freezing the liquid medium;
- c) cooling the liquid medium with the fluid freezing medium at a temperature below the freezing point of the liquid medium for a period effective to rapidly freeze the liquid medium; and
- d) freeze drying the frozen liquid medium to form the porous bodies by removal of the liquid medium by sublimation.

Claim 9 (Original) A method as claimed in claim 8 wherein the cooling of the liquid medium is accomplished by spraying an atomised water-in-oil emulsion into the fluid freezing medium; by dropping drops of a water-in-oil emulsion into the fluid freezing medium or by pouring a water-in-oil emulsion into a mould and cooling the emulsion in the mould.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 8 ~~or 9~~ wherein the polymeric material is a homopolymer or copolymer made from one or more of the following (co)monomers:-

Alkenes; dienes; urethanes; vinyl esters; styrenics; alkyl (meth)acrylates; alkyl (meth)acrylamides; (meth)acrylonitrile; vinyl ethers; imides; amides; anhydrides, esters; ethers, carbonates; isothiocyanates; silanes; siloxanes; sulphones; aliphatic and aromatic alcohols; aromatic and aliphatic acids; aromatic and aliphatic amines

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 10 wherein the polymeric material is polystyrene or polyvinyl acetate.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of claims 9 to 11~~ claim 9 wherein the surfactant is non-ionic, anionic, cationic, or zwitterionic.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of claim 9 to 12~~ claim 9 wherein the surfactant has an HLB value of 3 to 6.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of claims 9 to 13~~claim 9 wherein the surfactant is selected from the group consisting of ethoxylated triglycerides; fatty alcohol ethoxylates; alkylphenol ethoxylates; fatty acid ethoxylates; fatty amide ethoxylates; fatty amine ethoxylates; sorbitan alkanoates; ethylated sorbitan alkanoates; alkyl ethoxylates; pluronics; alkyl polyglucosides; stearyl ethoxylates; alkyl polyglycosides; alkylether sulfates; alkylether carboxylates; alkylbenzene sulfonates; alkylether phosphates; dialkyl sulfosuccinates; alkyl sulfonates; soaps; alkyl sulfates; alkyl carboxylates; alkyl phosphates; paraffin sulfonates; secondary n-alkane sulfonates; alpha-olefin sulfonates; isethionate sulfonates; fatty amine salts; fatty diamine salts; quaternary ammonium compounds; phosphonium surfactants; sulfonium surfactants; sulfonxonium surfactants; N-alkyl derivatives of amino acids (such as glycine, betaine, aminopropionic acid); imidazoline surfactants; amine oxides; amidobetaines; and mixtures thereof.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 9 wherein the intimate mixture is a water-in-oil emulsion.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 15 wherein the discontinuous phase of the emulsion comprises 10 to 95% by volume of the emulsion.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 15 wherein the discontinuous phase of the emulsion comprises 20 to 60% by volume of the emulsion.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 15 wherein the discontinuous phase of the emulsion is selected from the group consisting of alkanes; cyclic hydrocarbons; halogenated alkanes; esters; ketones; ethers; volatile cyclic silicones; and mixtures thereof.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended) Solutions or dispersions comprising a polymeric material and surfactant formed by exposing the porous bodies of ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~claim 1 to a non-aqueous medium.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented) Solutions or dispersions comprising a polymeric material, surfactant and a hydrophilic material formed by exposing the porous bodies of claim 5 having the hydrophilic material contained therein to a non-aqueous medium.